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Occupational Licensing Is A “Title of Nobility”

¶1. Occupational licensing is a Title of Nobility Prohibited by the United States Constitution that Violates Equal Protection.

¶2. Occupational licensing upon attorneys acts as the equivalent of a Title of Nobility, which is prohibited by the Constitution of the United States of America. One of the truly "sacred cows" of our society and a matter of great importance to all of us is occupational licensing. You may not have previously thought about this issue in terms of the law of equality, but an equality analysis is extremely relevant, even though a liberty of contract analysis would lead to the same conclusions. In short, occupational licensing violates the unalienable right of equality.

¶3. The principles and concepts which are examined here apply to every kind of occupational licensing. In our nation today, occupational licensing takes many forms, and is called by many names, such as certification, qualification, approval and registration. Many kinds of professions, trades and occupations are licensed or regulated, including lawyers, physicians, truck drivers, contractors and teachers.

¶4. Occupations are regulated or licensed at both the state and federal level. However, it does not really matter which level applies for our purposes. The reason for that is two-fold. First, the law of the nature of equality applies to both state and federal law. The Declaration of Independence establishes the legal context both for the nation and for every state. Both as a matter of law, and as a matter of historical record, every state in the Union has bound itself to the legal framework established by the Declaration. Second, the United States Constitution contains express language prohibiting both the federal government and the states from granting any title of nobility.

¶5. Let us examine whether occupational licensing is a violation of the law of equality

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1 and is a form of title of nobility. Consider the occupation most familiar to many of us,
2 the legal profession. I submit that the present system of law school accreditation and
3 compulsory bar memberships, as well as the licensing of attorneys in general, is
4 contrary to the law of nature and is also unconstitutional.

5 ¶6. This subject requires that we review the history of monopolies under the English
6 common law. We generally have a wrong view of monopolies today, which is evident
7 by the way Congress has defined the law of antitrust. For example, the Sherman Anti-
8 Trust Act states:

9 *"Every contract, combination . . . or conspiracy, in restraint of trade or
commerce . . . is declared to be illegal."* (See:15 U.S.C. §1 (1982)).

10 ¶7. Similarly, the Clayton Anti-Trust Act makes it illegal for businesses to charge
11 different customers different prices for the same goods or services, or to acquire
12 another business whenever the effect is to lessen competition or to create a
13 monopoly.

14 Title 15 United States Code. Commerce and Trade Chapter 1. Monopolies
15 and Combination in Restraint of Trade §12:

16 (a)

17 "Antitrust laws," as used herein, includes the Act entitled "An Act to protect
18 trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies," approved
19 July second, eighteen hundred and ninety; sections seventy-three to seventy-
20 six, inclusive, of an Act entitled "An Act to reduce taxation, to provide
21 revenue for the Government, and for other purposes," of August twenty-
22 seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety-four; an Act entitled "An Act to amend
23 sections seventy-three and seventy-six of the Act of August twenty-
24 seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, entitled 'An Act to reduce
25 taxation, to provide revenue for the Government, and for other purposes,'"
26 approved February twelfth, nineteen hundred and thirteen; and also this Act.

27 "Commerce," as used herein, means trade or commerce among the several
28 States and with foreign nations, or between the District of Columbia or any
Territory of the United States and any State, Territory, or foreign nation, or
between any insular possessions or other places under the jurisdiction of the
United States, or between any such possession or place and any State or
Territory of the United States or the District of Columbia or any foreign

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1 nation, or within the District of Columbia or any Territory or any insular
2 possession or other place under the jurisdiction of the United States:
3 Provided, That nothing in this Act contained shall apply to the Philippine
4 Islands.

5 The word “person” or “persons” wherever used in this Act shall be deemed
6 to include corporations and associations existing under or authorized by the
7 laws of either the United States, the laws of any of the Territories, the laws
8 of any State, or the laws of any foreign country.

9 **(b)**

10 This Act may be cited as the “Clayton Act”.

11 **¶8.** Title 15 United States Code. Commerce and Trade Chapter 1. Monopolies and
12 Combination in Restraint of Trade §13:

13 **§13. Discrimination in price, services, or facilities**

14 **(a) Price; selection of customers**

15 It shall be unlawful for any person engaged in commerce, in the course of
16 such commerce, either directly or indirectly, to discriminate in price between
17 different purchasers of commodities of like grade and quality, where either or
18 any of the purchases involved in such discrimination are in commerce, where
19 such commodities are sold for use, consumption, or resale within the United
20 States or any Territory thereof or the District of Columbia or any insular
21 possession or other place under the jurisdiction of the United States, and
22 where the effect of such discrimination may be substantially to lessen
23 competition or tend to create a monopoly in any line of commerce, or to
24 injure, destroy, or prevent competition with any person who either grants or
25 knowingly receives the benefit of such discrimination, or with customers of
26 either of them: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall prevent
27 differentials which make only due allowance for differences in the cost of
manufacture, sale, or delivery resulting from the differing methods or
quantities in which such commodities are to such purchasers sold or
delivered: *Provided, however*, That the Federal Trade Commission may, after
due investigation and hearing to all interested parties, fix and establish
quantity limits, and revise the same as it finds necessary, as to particular
commodities or classes of commodities, where it finds that available
purchasers in greater quantities are so few as to render differentials on
account thereof unjustly discriminatory or promotive of monopoly in any line
of commerce; and the foregoing shall then not be construed to permit
differentials based on differences in quantities greater than those so fixed and
established: *And provided further*, That nothing herein contained shall

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prevent persons engaged in selling goods, wares, or merchandise in commerce from selecting their own customers in bona fide transactions and not in restraint of trade: *And provided further*, That nothing herein contained shall prevent price changes from time to time where in response to changing conditions affecting the market for or the marketability of the goods concerned, such as but not limited to actual or imminent deterioration of perishable goods, obsolescence of seasonal goods, distress sales under court process, or sales in good faith in discontinuance of business in the goods concerned.

(b) Burden of rebutting prima-facie case of discrimination

Upon proof being made, at any hearing on a complaint under this section, that there has been discrimination in price or services or facilities furnished, the burden of rebutting the prima-facie case thus made by showing justification shall be upon the person charged with a violation of this section, and unless justification shall be affirmatively shown, the Commission is authorized to issue an order terminating the discrimination: *Provided, however,* That nothing herein contained shall prevent a seller rebutting the prima-facie case thus made by showing that his lower price or the furnishing of services or facilities to any purchaser or purchasers was made in good faith to meet an equally low price of a competitor, or the services or facilities furnished by a competitor.

(c) Payment or acceptance of commission, brokerage, or other compensation

It shall be unlawful for any person engaged in commerce, in the course of such commerce, to pay or grant, or to receive or accept, anything of value as a commission, brokerage, or other compensation, or any allowance or discount in lieu thereof, except for services rendered in connection with the sale or purchase of goods, wares, or merchandise, either to the other party to such transaction or to an agent, representative, or other intermediary therein where such intermediary is acting in fact for or in behalf, or is subject to the direct or indirect control, of any party to such transaction other than the person by whom such compensation is so granted or paid.

(d) Payment for services or facilities for processing or sale

It shall be unlawful for any person engaged in commerce to pay or contract for the payment of anything of value to or for the benefit of a customer of such person in the course of such commerce as compensation or in consideration for any services or facilities furnished by or through such customer in connection with the processing, handling, sale, or offering for sale of any products or commodities manufactured, sold, or offered for sale by such person, unless such payment or consideration is available on

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1 proportionally equal terms to all other customers competing in the
2 distribution of such products or commodities.

3 **(e) Furnishing services or facilities for processing, handling, etc.**

4 It shall be unlawful for any person to discriminate in favor of one purchaser
5 against another purchaser or purchasers of a commodity bought for resale,
6 with or without processing, by contracting to furnish or furnishing, or by
7 contributing to the furnishing of, any services or facilities connected with the
8 processing, handling, sale, or offering for sale of such commodity so
9 purchased upon terms not accorded to all purchasers on proportionally equal
10 terms.

11 **(f) Knowingly inducing or receiving discriminatory price**

12 It shall be unlawful for any person engaged in commerce, in the course of
13 such commerce, knowingly to induce or receive a discrimination in price
14 which is prohibited by this section.

15 **¶9. Title 15 United States Code. Commerce and Trade Chapter 1. Monopolies and
16 Combination in Restraint of Trade §14:**

17 **§14. Sale, etc., on agreement not to use goods of competitor**

18 It shall be unlawful for any person engaged in commerce, in the course of
19 such commerce, to lease or make a sale or contract for sale of goods, wares,
20 merchandise, machinery, supplies, or other commodities, whether patented or
21 un-patented, for use, consumption, or re-sale within the United States or any
22 Territory thereof or the District of Columbia or any insular possession or
23 other place under the jurisdiction of the United States, or fix a price charged
24 therefor, or discount from, or rebate upon, such price, on the condition,
25 agreement, or understanding that the lessee or purchaser thereof shall not use
26 or deal in the goods, wares, merchandise, machinery, supplies, or other
27 commodities of a competitor or competitors of the lessor or seller, where the
28 effect of such lease, sale, or contract for sale or such condition, agreement, or
understanding may be to substantially lessen competition or tend to create a
monopoly in any line of commerce.

(Oct. 15, 1914, ch. 323, §3, 38 Stat. 731.)

**¶10. Essentially, these laws prohibit certain business contracts entered into by private
parties.**

**¶11. But, in Blackstone's day, and in the worldview of our American forefathers, a
monopoly meant only one thing: an exclusive privilege to engage in business which**

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1 was granted by the king. In other words, every monopoly was created by the civil
2 ruler. A monopoly was not a private contract, or even a contractual issue, but a civil
3 privilege, and therefore, an equality issue. Thus, private parties could "corner the
4 market," but they could never create a monopoly.

5 ¶12. The distinction between law and fact is also relevant here. Modern scholars
6 define a monopoly based upon economic facts, that is, the perceivable practice of
7 market participants. However, our forefathers understood a monopoly as a question of
8 law, that is, whether a person was legally entitled to enter the marketplace. If, in fact,
9 only one seller brought his wares to the market, that was acceptable, so long as other
10 sellers were able to act similarly, but simply chose not to do so. If, however, only one
11 seller had the exclusive right to sell his wares at the market, even if no one else
12 wanted to sell their wares in the same market at the same time, a monopoly existed,
13 and was unlawful. Thus, the definition of a monopoly was legally based, not factually
14 based.

15 ¶13. Pursuant to this historical definition, the licensing of attorneys creates a
16 monopoly and violates the law of equality. After all, a lawyer's license is nothing
17 other than a privilege to render legal services, a privilege which is granted by the
18 state. And, the privilege is made exclusive by the enactment of statutes outlawing the
19 unauthorized practice of law which restricting the right of other persons to render
20 legal services. In this way, the licensing of attorneys creates a monopoly contrary to
21 the law of equality.

22 ¶14. Attorney licensing is completely predicated on a presumed state's right to be a
23 respecter of persons. The function of a statute prohibiting the unauthorized practice of
24 law is not to distinguish between people on the basis of what they do, but who they
25 are. By definition, a person engaged in the unauthorized practice of law is engaging in
26 the same activity as a licensed lawyer. The only distinguishing characteristic is that he
27 is not licensed. Licensing statutes similarly distinguish between people on the basis of
28 where they attended school, by whom it was accredited, and in what states they

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1 previously practiced law. In short, whether you become licensed depends on your
2 identity, not your competency.

3 ¶15. Attorney licensing is also legally equivalent to a title of nobility. Licensing, like
4 some of the English titles of nobility, is obtained by special grant from the state. And,
5 licensing confers special privileges peculiar to the profession. Only licensed attorneys
6 can appear before a judge on behalf of another person and are regarded as "officers of
7 the court." Only licensed attorneys have the benefit of an attorney-client privilege, and
8 the name says it all. It is not called the "attorney-client right," because it is not a right.
9 Legally-enforced confidentiality is a privilege usually denied even to other licensed
10 professionals. In essence, licensed attorneys are state established, just as a state
11 religion could be established.

12 ¶16. W. Clark Durant, chairman of the Legal Services Corporation's board of
13 governors, stated at the mid-winter meeting of the American Bar Association
14 (A.B.A.) in February 1987:

15 *"The greatest barrier to widely dispersed low-cost dispute resolution
16 services for the poor, and for all people, could very well be the laws
17 protecting our profession. They make it a cartel. Like any such laws, they
18 limit or distort supply; they increase prices; and they create dislocations in
19 the marketplace.*

20 *"The legal monopoly rests on two major pillars. The first are laws that set
21 aside specific work exclusively for lawyers. Anyone else who performs
22 "lawyer's work" may be prosecuted for the unauthorized practice of law
23 [UPL statutes]. The second is a series of restrictions on how one may
24 become a lawyer. These restrictions are really barriers to competition, not
25 guardians of competence."*

26 (Address by Clark Durant entitled Maximizing Access to Justice: A
27 Challenge to the Legal Profession, American Bar Association Mid-Winter
28 Meeting (Feb. 12, 1987), New Orleans.)

29 ¶17. Speaking of the A.B.A. accreditation of law schools, Durant said:

30 *"This is not a quality control issue. It is an issue of control under the pretext*

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of quality."

¶18. And finally, Durant concluded:

"State bars should be voluntary . . . State unauthorized practice of law statutes simply should be repealed."

(Address by Clark Durant entitled Maximizing Access to Justice: A Challenge to the Legal Profession, American Bar Association Mid-Winter Meeting (Feb. 12, 1987), New Orleans.)

¶19. These conclusions are also supported by an examination of the same issues in the light of the law of contract liberty and the Constitution's Obligation of Contracts clause.

United States Constitution Article I, §10, Clause 1: “No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.”

¶20. In a contracts context, occupational licensing is nothing other than a restriction on the kinds of contracts people would otherwise be at liberty to make. It says that certain people can enter into contracts to furnish legal services, but all other persons cannot. In essence, it declares all contracts for the furnishing of legal services to be illegal, unless one of the parties has special permission from the state. Consequently, licensing violates the unalienable right of contract within our right of liberty as much as it violates the unalienable right of equality.

¶21. The foregoing general analysis of attorney licensing also applies to the American Bar Association in particular. The A.B.A. is a group of self-appointed guardians of the purity of legal doctrine, who have obtained a grant of monopoly from most of the states, to determine how all lawyers must think, and what the law ought to be. *The A.B.A. is not created or governed by any civil government, yet it wields legislative, executive and judicial power.* It is not accountable to the people, yet it rules over

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1 them as a lord and benefactor, supposedly acting in the public interest.
2

3 ¶22. If ever there was a privileged nobility in America, the A.B.A. is one. It has been
4 given the exclusive right by most states to engage in the business of accrediting law
5 schools as it sees fit. We should not wonder why it resists the accreditation of any law
6 school which teaches God-given rights. ***By definition, the A.B.A. has arrogated unto
7 itself a monopoly in violation of the law of the nature of equality and the
8 constitutional prohibitions against titles of nobility.*** By the very nature of its
9 activities, the A.B.A. denies that equality is an unalienable, or God-given right.

10 ¶23. Apparently, **judges in superior courts** do **not** want “**We The People**” to
11 know where their allegiances are. Does this surprise the Accused? John Napper, and
12 Glen M. Asay **must** be accountable to “**We The People**” equally accountable to,
13 “**We The People**”, the public at large!

Filing Fees To The Treasurer of the United States! Not to the United States Treasurer.

14 ¶24. It is Accused’s vision that John Napper will gain the status of *Article III Judge*,
15 with lifetime tenure during good behavior, being paid in gold and silver coinage
16 according to the *1792 Coinage Act* to reinstate the judicial department. The Accused
17 will pay the filing fees and court costs in gold and silver which must go into the
18 “*Treasurer of the United States*” to get the ball rolling to re-instate the *de jure*
19 governmental structure! The Accused will Not pay the “UNITED STATES
20 TREASURER™” which is *foreign*!
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